United Nations A/ES-10/409–S/2007/785

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
4 January 2008

Original: English

**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-third year**

## Identical letters dated 4 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

It is my deep regret to inform you that the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory have begun their new year under increasing assault by Israel, the occupying Power, which has intensified its illegitimate military campaign against the Palestinian civilian population, killing and wounding more people, including women and children. Such military aggressions and violations of international law by the occupying Power threaten to further destabilize the extremely fragile situation on the ground and to completely undermine the momentum and good will created during the recent period by the Annapolis and Paris conferences and resumed bilateral negotiations.

The Israeli occupying forces have been carrying out a series of lethal raids and attacks against towns and cities in the Gaza Strip in recent days. On Wednesday, 2 January 2008, the occupying forces launched air missile attacks against the Al-Shujaiya neighbourhood of Gaza City, killing at least six Palestinians and wounding dozens, while military bulldozers barrelled through the neighbourhood, causing destruction to property and later razing vast tracts of agricultural land.

This attack was followed on Thursday, 3 January 2008, by Israeli tank and warplane bombings across the Gaza Strip that resulted in the killing of at least nine Palestinians, bringing terror, grief and devastation to more Palestinian families. Among the civilians killed were five members of one family in Khan Younis, including a mother, Karima Fayyad, her daughter, Asmaa' Hamdan Fayyad, her two sons, Sami and Ahmad Hamdan Fayyad, and her nephew Mohammad Khodair Fayyad. Several children were seriously wounded as well in the assaults carried out yesterday in the Gaza Strip, with nearly 30 more Palestinians injured as a result of the heavy tank shelling, missile strikes and machine gunfire by the Israeli occupying forces, which also deliberately blew up homes and levelled agricultural fields in the area. In addition to the death and destruction caused, many of those civilians wounded remain in critical condition in Gaza hospitals that continue to be

08-20210 (E) 070108

overwhelmed due to the shortage of supplies and medicines resulting from the ongoing Israeli siege of the Gaza Strip and the continuing humanitarian crisis.

Today, the Israeli occupying forces continued to carry out attacks in the Gaza Strip, killing two Palestinian men in the town of Beit Hanoun. Earlier in the week, on Sunday, 30 December 2007, Beit Hanoun was also the scene of death and tragedy as the Israeli occupying forces opened fire at a crossing point where pilgrims were returning to the Gaza Strip. The attack resulted in the killing of one Palestinian woman, Khaldiyya Ahmad Hamdan, who had just returned from the hajj (pilgrimage) to Mecca, and wounded at least five other people.

Israel, the occupying Power, has also been carrying out major military operations in the West Bank, particularly in and around the cities of Nablus, Tulkarem and Bethlehem, totally undermining the efforts being undertaken by Palestinian Authority security forces, which had been increasingly effective in recent weeks. On Wednesday, 2 January 2008, hundreds of Israeli soldiers in armoured vehicles raided the city of Nablus and the Balata refugee camp there and imposed a curfew on the civilian population. Forced house-to-house searches were carried out by the occupying forces, resulting in the injury of at least 33 Palestinians and the arrest and detention of several others.

At the same time, Israel has not undertaken measures to ease the severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian persons and goods throughout the West Bank and particularly into and out of East Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. Moreover, in grave breach of international humanitarian law, in violation of United Nations resolutions and in total disrespect for its road map commitments, Israel continues to carry out settlement activities and also continues to construct the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Such illegitimate, expansionist measures by the occupying Power continue to create facts on the ground that will prejudice final status negotiations and continue to poison the atmosphere between the two sides, seriously harming the prospects for peace.

In this connection, I must also draw your attention to the violence and intimidation that continue to be perpetrated by illegal Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Two of many examples include the killing of a Palestinian man, Wasfi Al-Khateeb, who was run over by an Israeli settler in a car in the village of Na'leen, west of Ramallah in the West Bank, on 29 December 2007 and later died, on 30 December. Also, on Wednesday, 2 January 2008, a group of Israeli settlers set fire to the historic Al-Hamadiyya Mosque, in the village of Al-Khader, near Bethlehem, using beehives stolen from a nearby Palestinian farm to set the blaze. In this regard, it should be noted that the settlers from the illegal settlements surrounding Al-Khader have been making repeated attempts to seize land from the village and have continuously been harassing and terrorizing the civilian population there.

All of these continuing Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, must be of concern to the international community, for their continuation and escalation can only fuel the cycle of violence and bring more instability, tragedy and loss, worsening the situation on the ground and dimming the prospects for peace. Serious efforts must be exerted by the international community, including the United Nations Security Council, to bring an end to such violations of international law by Israel, the occupying Power, and to compel Israel to abide by its legal obligations

and commitments and to carry out much-needed confidence-building measures. At the same time, efforts must continue to be exerted to further promote the positive momentum generated by recent important international conferences in order to halt the deterioration of the situation and support the advancement of resumed bilateral negotiations between the parties on critical final status issues.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 304 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 28 December 2007 (A/ES-10/408-S/2007/766), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my deep regret to inform you that at least 23 more Palestinian civilians, including children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 4,862 (the names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

## Annex to the identical letters dated 4 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

## Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (From Friday, 28 December 2007, to Friday, 4 January 2008)

**Friday, 28 December 2007**

1. Bassel Al-Natsha

**Saturday, 29 December 2007**

2. Ibrahim Ali Al-Louh

**Sunday, 30 December 2007**

3. Adel Youssef Qishta
4. Khaldiyya Ahmad Hamdan
5. Wasfi Al-Khateeb

**Tuesday, 1 January 2008**

6. Yehya Sa'eed Jaber

**Wednesday, 2 January 2008**

7. Aa'hed Mahmoud Shamali
8. Youssef Mohammad Shamali
9. Mus'ab Waleed Jindiyya (18)
10. Abdel Kareem Ahmad Al-Helou
11. Hamada Ahmad Abu Omeira
12. Salem Fouad Al-Wadiyya

**Thursday, 3 January 2008**

13. Karima Fayyad
14. Sami Hamdan Fayyad
15. Ahmad Hamdan Fayyad
16. Asmaa' Hamdan Fayyad
17. Mohammad Khodair Fayyad (17)
18. Munir Ibrahim Barham
19. Borhom Abu Lihya
20. Mohammad Abdallah Qishta
21. Yasser Rafiq Hellis

**Friday, 4 January 2008**

22. Ahmad Nasr Al-Kafarna
23. Mohammad Awad Al-Kafarna

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 4,862.

United Nations A/ES-10/409/Corr.1-S/2008/8/Corr.1

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
8 January 2008

Original: English

**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-third year**

# Identical letters dated 4 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

**Corrigendum**

Document A/ES-10/409-S/2007/785, dated 4 January 2008, should bear the symbol A/ES-10/409-S/2008/8.

08-20375 (E) 090108

United Nations A/ES-10/410–S/2008/23

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 January 2008

Original: English

**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-third year**

## Identical letters dated 15 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

War crimes are being committed against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory by Israel, the occupying Power, which has never, despite any and all peace efforts, ceased its crimes and merciless human rights violations against the Palestinian people. In this regard, I regret to inform you that, in the 10 days since my last letter to you, the occupying Power has killed at least another 37 Palestinians, including several children.

Even as we engage in direct bilateral negotiations in the fragile peace process resumed between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, the occupying Power, rather than promoting calm and undertaking confidence-building measures, has instead intensified its military campaign, spreading more death, destruction and terror among the civilian population, particularly in the Gaza Strip. Such illegal acts of aggression by the occupying Power poison the atmosphere, inevitably undermining peace efforts and fuelling the dreaded cycle of violence that has so long plagued our peoples.

In the latest escalation, early today, 15 January 2008, the Israeli occupying forces launched a large-scale attack against civilian areas in Gaza City, targeting the Al-Zaitun and Al-Shujaiya neighbourhoods of the city. Occupying forces in tanks, armoured vehicles and bulldozers raged through the area under the cover of helicopter gunships and warplanes, killing at least 19 Palestinians, including a 65-year-old man, As'aad Issa Tafesh. Fifty other Palestinians were injured in the attacks, including an eight-year-old boy who has been critically wounded, and many of the wounded now in Gaza's overburdened hospitals are reported to have lost limbs in the onslaught. In addition to using such deadly and indiscriminate force against the civilian population, the Israeli occupying forces also caused more damage to the area by bulldozing dozens of acres of farmlands, orchards and agricultural fields and destroying other civilian property. Such wilful killing of civilians and the wanton destruction of property constitute war crimes under the Fourth Geneva Convention, for which Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable.

08-21003 (E) 170108

The international community must view this recent Israeli military assault against the Palestinian people with utmost seriousness, for the short and long-term consequences of this escalation of violence are far-ranging and could completely derail nascent peace efforts if not immediately ceased. The situation in the Gaza Strip is particularly grave. There, the Palestinian civilian population remains under a crippling siege and continues to suffer a humanitarian crisis that is greatly worsened by such illegal acts of violence and terror by the occupying Power. In addition to causing more suffering for the population and further destabilizing the situation on the ground in the Gaza Strip, Israel's actions incite, provoke and ignite the cycle of violence we have been exerting all efforts to break.

Military attacks, terror and aggression by the occupying Power against the civilian population under its occupation are totally incompatible with peacemaking. Peacemaking requires at the minimum a cessation of violations, respect for international law and efforts to build confidence and promote reconciliation. Peacemaking cannot survive in an environment where all kinds of grave breaches of the law are being committed by the occupying Power. The security pretext constantly used by Israel, the occupying Power, cannot justify the slaughter of innocent civilians and the systematic violation of their human rights. If Israel, the occupying Power, is never held accountable for these crimes, it will only be further emboldened to continue acting with impunity in its trampling of the law and its aggressions against the Palestinian people. The result will be more hardship and loss for the people and will gravely undermine the Palestinian Authority's engagement in the peace process.

The international community, including the Security Council, has clear responsibilities in this regard. Israel, the occupying Power, must be compelled to cease all violations against the Palestinian people and to respect international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention. The occupying Power must be urged to pursue the path of peace in good faith and, in addition to ceasing violations, to undertake real confidence-building measures to improve the situation on the ground and advance the peace process towards its ultimate goals of peace and security for both peoples. We are at a critical juncture that requires urgent efforts to prevent the further decline of the situation and to save the peace process from irreparable damage. All must shoulder their responsibilities.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 305 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 4 January 2008 (A/ES-10/409 and Corr.1-S/2008/8 and Corr.1), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my deep regret to inform you that at least 37 more Palestinian civilians, including children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 4,899 (the names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

## Annex to the identical letters dated 15 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

## Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (From Saturday, 5 January 2008 to Tuesday, 15 January 2008)

**Saturday, 5 January 2008**

1. Mohammad Ahmad Abu Odeh

**Sunday, 6 January 2008**

2. Iman Hamdan
3. Ahmad Mohammad Khalaf
4. Mahmoud Rabah Abed (19)
5. Muhannad Darghma
6. Ziyad Abu Rukba (16)
7. Mahmoud Al-Rab'ei

**Monday, 7 January 2008**

8. Fawwaz Awni Freihat (19)
9. Bassem Ahmad Abu Mostafa
10. Maysaa' Nimr Fanouna (19)

**Wednesday, 9 January 2008**

11. Khadra Wahdan
12. Mohammad Al-Kafarna
13. Amjad Abdel Dyem

**Saturday, 12 January 2008**

14. Ayed Sa'adallah Abu Abed
15. Mansour Salah Al-Boraim (18)

**Sunday, 13 January 2008**

16. Nidal Al-Amoudi
17. Maher Al-Mabhouh
18. Hammouda Razqa

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 4,899.

**Tuesday, 15 January 2008**

19. Abdallah Taleb Al-Moghanni
20. Hossam Mahmoud Al-Zahhar
21. Rami Talal Farahat
22. Aahed Saa'dallah Ashour
23. Marwan Sameer Odeh
24. Mahmoud Ata Abu Laban
25. Saleem Abdel Haq Al-Modallal
26. Abdallah Al-Haj Salem
27. Sakhr Saleem Zwayed
28. Mostafa Yahya Selmi (19)
29. Mos'ab Saleem Selmi (18)
30. Mohammad Sabri Hana
31. Mohammad Majdi Hajji
32. Sa'eed Mostafa Al-Sammouni
33. As'aad Issa Tafesh
34. Ayman Fadel Malaka
35. Abdel Salam Abu Laban (19)
36. Ahmad Nasr Al-Attal
37. Marwan Hamada

United Nations A/ES-10/411–S/2008/35

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 January 2008

Original: English

**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-third year**

## Identical letters dated 21 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

As we have repeatedly cautioned in our recent letters to you, Israel, the occupying Power, is continuing its inhumane and unlawful collective punishment of the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Gaza Strip, with disastrous consequences for the humanitarian situation there. The occupying Power has intensified its siege of the Gaza Strip with the ongoing closure of all border crossings and the deliberate obstruction of the entry of even vital humanitarian supplies.

In addition to its recent escalation of the military campaign against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, which has resulted, in less than a week's time, in the killing of more than 40 Palestinians, including children and women, and injury to dozens of other civilians, Israel, the occupying Power, has intensified its closure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory by hermetically sealing all border crossings, preventing even the delivery of food supplies to the population since Friday, 18 January 2008. At the same time, Israel has persisted with the reduction of fuel supplies to the Gaza Strip, completely cutting off fuel to the main power plant on Sunday, 20 January 2008.

Such illegal measures of collective punishment threaten to exacerbate the humanitarian crisis and are hastening the deterioration of the situation on the ground in all its aspects. The suspension of fuel supplies has had an impact on the provision of electricity to the civilian population, with the majority of Gaza's population suffering in darkness since yesterday, with no electricity for their homes, no power for the refrigeration of their already meagre food supplies and no heating, in addition to the fuel shortages that have brought vehicular traffic in the Gaza Strip to a near standstill. Health officials are also reporting that hospital generators are running out of fuel supplies, endangering the lives of sick patients, young and old. In addition, such fuel reductions will inevitably further obstruct the functioning of

08-21490 (E) 240108

sanitation and water facilities, which will have negative consequences for the health of the civilian population.

The continued imposition of this crippling, cruel siege on the Palestinian civilian population, combined with Israel's condemnable military attacks, which not only cause death and destruction but also constitute clear acts of incitement and provocation, is causing extensive human suffering and rising instability and is heightening fear, tension and despair among the civilian population. There is no pretext — security or otherwise — that can justify such inhumane punishment of innocent civilians, including children, women and elderly, disabled and ill persons.

Moreover, such illegal acts of aggression and punitive measures by the occupying Power severely poison the atmosphere between the two sides, undermining peace efforts and reigniting the cycle of violence, with its far-ranging, negative implications for the situation on the ground and prospects for peace. In that regard, it must be clearly recalled that the wilful killing of civilians, the wanton destruction of property and the collective punishment of civilians under occupation are strictly prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention.

The international community must uphold international law and shoulder its responsibilities, including by ensuring respect for the law. Israel, the occupying Power, must be called upon to immediately cease its acts of military aggression and its collective punishment of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and abide by its legal obligations. Israel's siege of the Gaza Strip must be condemned, and Israel should be called upon to lift the closures and allow for the opening of crossings to permit the access, at the very minimum, of necessary food and medical supplies. The warning issued by United Nations agencies on the ground that, if the closures continue, vital food aid to the more than 1 million refugees and other needy civilians in Gaza dependent on such aid for survival will have to be suspended within a few days must be taken seriously. Immediate action must be undertaken to ensure the entry of essential supplies and the restoration of fuel to the Gaza Strip. We call upon the members of the international community in all arenas to shoulder their responsibilities and to intervene urgently to put an end to this punishment of the Palestinian people, to alleviate the humanitarian crisis, to halt the deterioration of the security situation and to salvage the fragile peace process, which will surely collapse under the weight of such ongoing illegal Israeli policies and practices.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 306 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. Those letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 15 January 2008 (A/ES-10/410-S/2008/23), constitute a basic record of the crimes that have been committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of those war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable, and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is with deep regret that I inform you that at least 24 more Palestinian civilians, including children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 4,923 (the names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

## Annex to the identical letters dated 21 January 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security council

## Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (from Wednesday, 16 January 2008 to Monday, 21 January 2008)

**Wednesday, 16 January 2008**

1. Aamer Hashem Al-Yazji
2. Mohammad Hachem Al-Yazji
3. Ameer Aamer Al-Yazji (11)
4. Waleed Obaidi
5. Mohammad Ahmad Al-Safadi
6. Wa'el Abdel Kareem Ahel

**Thursday, 17 January 2008**

7. Ashraf Al-Achi
8. Mahmoud Al-Banna
9. Mariam Al-Rohal
10. Saleh Al-Rohal
11. Mansour Al-Rohal
12. Ra'ad Suleiman Abu Foul
13. Fat'hia Al-Hassoumi
14. Ziyad Khedr Abu Taqiya

**Friday, 18 January 2008**

15. Shadi Qutiyfan
16. Mahmoud Ramadan Al-Barsh (16)
17. Ismail Radwan
18. Hanniya Abdel Jawwad

**Saturday, 19 January 2008**

19. Ihab Al-Banna
20. Ali Juamaa'
21. Marouj Sufian Taha (6)

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 4,923.

**Sunday, 20 January 2008**

22. Ibrahim Al-Ghouti

23. Mahmoud Al-Ghouti

**Monday, 21 January 2008**

24. Murad Ibrahim Al-Basha